

# CITY OF RALEIGH INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM



**To:** Ruffin Hall,  
City Manager

**From:** C.L. Deck-Brown,  
Police Chief

**Date:** January 16, 2019

**Re:** Preliminary Report of January 9, 2019,  
Officer-Involved Shooting

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An officer-involved shooting occurred on January 9, 2019, in the 1200 block of Teakwood Place. A suspect shot at two officers, striking one multiple times. The officer who was not struck returned fire, but did not strike anyone. Following standard practice, both the Wake County District Attorney and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) were notified. Because no one was injured as a result of the officer's discharge of his weapon, the SBI did not investigate the matter. The Raleigh Police Department Internal Affairs Unit is in the process of conducting a criminal investigation of the officer's discharge of his weapon, which will be presented to the Wake County District Attorney for review. The Detective Division of the Raleigh Police Department is investigating matters related to the assault on the officers. At the conclusion of the criminal investigation, the Internal Affairs Unit will conduct an administrative investigation into the incident. When complete, the administrative investigation will be evaluated by members of the Command Staff.

Investigations are on-going, will be thorough, and will follow the available facts and evidence wherever they lead. Based upon the information currently available to the Department, a preliminary review of the incident provides the following:

Shortly after 8:00 p.m. on January 9, 2019, Raleigh Police were dispatched to a 911 call reporting a suspicious vehicle that may have been involved in a recent carjacking. Senior Officer B.A. Halpin and Officer C.D. Ainsworth were the first to arrive. Both officers parked their patrol vehicles some distance away from the location described by the 911 caller and responded on foot. Upon reaching the 1200 block of Teakwood Place, Officer Halpin observed two men who appeared to be attempting to break into a vehicle.

Officer Halpin gave commands for the suspects to show their hands. One suspect, later identified as Antonio Dequan Fletcher, complied with Officer Halpin's command. The other suspect, later identified as Cedric Jamal Kearney, turned away from Officer Halpin and immediately encountered Officer Ainsworth. Mr. Kearney opened fire at very close range, striking Officer Ainsworth multiple times. Mr. Kearney continued to fire in Officer Halpin's

direction as he fled the scene on foot. Officer Halpin then returned fire, but did not strike Mr. Kearney.

Officer Halpin called for emergency assistance, detained Mr. Fletcher, and began to render aid to Officer Ainsworth. Other officers arrived, lifted and placed Officer Ainsworth into the rear of a patrol vehicle to transport him to the hospital. While en route to the hospital, Officer Ainsworth was transferred from the patrol vehicle to a Wake County EMS ambulance. Additional officers, including many from other agencies, arrived and established a perimeter around the area in an attempt to locate Mr. Kearney.

A Raleigh Police canine tracked and ultimately led officers to a storage shed on Wendy Lane, where Mr. Kearney was hiding. He was subsequently taken into custody without further incident.

Mr. Kearney was charged with Attempted Murder; two counts of Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer with Firearm; Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon (carjacking); Conspiracy to Commit Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon; and Possession of a Stolen Firearm. Mr. Fletcher was charged with Possession of a Stolen Firearm. Both individuals are being held at the Wake County Jail.

There is body worn camera footage of the incident. However, due to its graphic and sensitive nature, the Raleigh Police Department will not petition the court for permission to release the footage.

Pursuant to departmental policy, Officer Halpin was placed on administrative duty pending the completion of the criminal and administrative investigations.